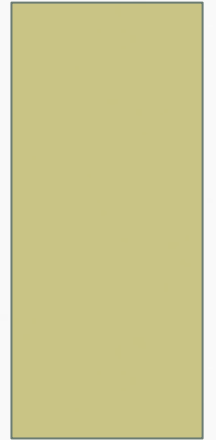


FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – 2023/2024

SAINT PATRICK'S & SAINT LUKE'S



THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- To help you learn more about God so that you can deepen your own personal relationship with Him.
- To give you the confidence to speak about your Catholic faith with others.
- To help you as you guide your children in their own personal relationship with God.
- To provide you with an opportunity to spend more time with your immediate family and also with our parish family.
- To provide you with a short time for prayer and an opportunity to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church is divided into 4 sections. They are:
 - The Creed – What we believe
 - The Sacraments – How we are sanctified
 - The Commandments – How we are to live
 - Prayer – How we relate and interact with God
- This year we will be studying the Sacraments

CONFIRMATION

- The Sacraments of Initiation are the foundations for the Christian life.
- Confirmation is the second of the three Sacraments of Initiation to be received.
- We are reborn in Baptism, strengthened in Confirmation and nourished by the Eucharist.

CONFIRMATION

- The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation completes baptismal grace.
- By Confirmation, one is more perfectly bound to the Church, enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit, and is made a true witness of Christ
- The one confirmed is now someone who is more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed. They are a “soldier” of Christ.

CONFIRMATION

- Before returning to His Father, Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would come to His disciples.
 - This happened at Easter (Jn 20:21-23)
 - This also happened on Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4).

CONFIRMATION



CONFIRMATION

- Confirmation is imparted to the newly baptized by the laying on of hands. At that time, they receive the gifts of the Spirit which complete the grace of Baptism (Acts 8:14-17).
- To signify the gift of the Holy Spirit, an anointing with Holy Chrism follows the laying on of hands. This highlights our name “Christian” which means “anointed one.”

CONFIRMATION

- In the early Church, Baptism and Confirmation formed a kind of “double sacrament” celebrated by the bishop.
- With the growth of the Church and the bishop no longer being able to celebrate every baptism, one of two things happened:
 - The Bishop continued to Confirm but not Baptize (West).
 - The Priest both Baptized and Confirmed (East).

CONFIRMATION

- The Signs and the Rite of Confirmation ...
 - When Confirmation is celebrated separately from Baptism, the Liturgy begins with the renewal of baptismal promises and the profession of faith by the confirmands.
 - The Bishop then prays over the confirmands and imposed hands on them. This symbolizes the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
 - The Anointing with Holy Chrism signifies a spiritual seal or branding. Oil is also a sign of abundance and joy; it cleanses and limbers and heals. The oil is consecrated by the bishop at the Chrism Mass.

CONFIRMATION



CONFIRMATION

- While the bishop is anointing the confirmand, he says, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”
- This is the “form” of the Sacrament.
- The response is “Amen.”
- Red Vestments are worn symbolizing the tongues of fire which came down upon the Apostles on Pentecost.

CONFIRMATION



CONFIRMATION

- The Effects of Confirmation:
 - It increases and deepens baptismal grace.
 - It roots us more deeply in the divine sonship by which we cry, “Abba! Father!”
 - It unites us more firmly to Christ.
 - It increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us.
 - It renders our bond with the Church more perfect.
 - It gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith.

CONFIRMATION

- The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are:
 - Wisdom
 - Understanding
 - Counsel
 - Fortitude
 - Knowledge
 - Piety
 - Fear of the Lord.
- They are also fruits of the Holy Spirit, perfections in us which flow from living a life of faith.

CONFIRMATION

- Like Baptism, Confirmation is given only once
- Also like Baptism, Confirmation imprints an indelible mark or character on the soul.

CONFIRMATION

- Who can Receive Confirmation ...
 - Every baptized person can and should receive the sacrament of Confirmation. This is done at the “the age of discretion,” but in danger of death, even infants can be confirmed.
 - To receive Confirmation, one must be in a state of grace. One should receive the sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. More intense prayer should prepare one to receive the strength and graces of the Holy Spirit.

CONFIRMATION

- If you have not been Confirmed or have not been Confirmed in the Catholic Church, please talk to your pastor so that arrangements can be made for you to be Confirmed.
- Note that Protestant confirmations are not Sacraments, nor are they considered Sacraments by most Protestants.

CONFIRMATION

- Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit.
- Candidates for Confirmation, should seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. To emphasize the unity of the two sacraments, it is appropriate that this be one of the baptismal godparents.

CONFIRMATION

- There are three requirements for Sponsors:
 - They must be 16 years old or above
 - They must be Confirmed
 - They must be practicing the Catholic faith.

CONFIRMATION

- A Confirmation name can be chosen by the Confirmand.
- This name must be that of a saint.
- Choosing to be named after a saint establishes a spiritual bond between the one being confirmed and that saint.
- That saint is then said to be the individual's "patron saint" who takes an interest in that individual and watches over them from heaven.

CONFIRMATION

- The ordinary Minister of Confirmation is the bishop.
- A priest can celebrate Confirmation ...
 - At the Easter Vigil
 - In an emergency
 - With the delegation of the Bishop or Diocesan Administrator
- When Confirmation is celebrated by a priest, Holy Chrism consecrated by the bishop is always used to express the apostolic unity of the Church.

CONFIRMATION



HOMework

- Watch the videos on Confirmation.
- Have your children learn about the life of a saint and have then consider which saint they would like to have for their patron saint when they are confirmed.

HOMework

- Ask your children if and when they are saying their prayers.
- See that your children complete any homework assignments they have.